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THE WAR.

"LET THE RALLYING WORD, THROUGH ALL THE DAY, BE "LIBERTY OR DEATH."

VOL. II.—No. 50.

NEW-YORK.....TUESDAY, MAY 31, 1814.

Whole No 102.

DOCUMENTS

Accompanying the Report of the Secretary of War, (inclosed in a message from the president to the house of representatives, in obedience to a resolution of the 31st Dec. 1813) explaining the causes of the Failure of our Arms on the Northern Frontier.

(Concluded.)

Correspondence between the secretary of war and col. Porter, and gen. McClure, &c.
(In continuation.)

War Department, October 4, 1813.

Sir—Understanding that the defence of the post committed to your charge, may render it proper to destroy the town of Newark, you are hereby directed to apprise its inhabitants of this circumstance, and invite them to remove themselves and their effects to some place of greater safety. I am, &c.

JOHN ARMSTRONG.

Brig. Gen. McClure, or officer commanding at Fort George, Upper Canada.

GEN. HARRISON'S ORDERS TO GEN. MCCLURE.

Head-Quarters, Newark, Nov. 15, 1814.

Dear sir—Being ordered to return to the westward, you will be pleased to resume the command which you received previous to my arrival at this place.

The orders which you heretofore have received will govern you. It will be necessary that you keep a vigilant eye over the disaffected part of the inhabitants, and I recommend that you make use of the zeal, activity, and local knowledge which col. Willcocks certainly possesses, to counteract the machinations of our enemy, and ensure the confidence of our friends amongst the inhabitants. It will, however, I am persuaded, be your wish, as it is your duty, to guard the latter as much as possible from oppression.

The volunteers which were lately called out will be retained as long as you consider their services necessary; the drafted militia until further orders are received from the secretary of war.

There can be little doubt of its being the intention of the enemy to send the greater part of the troops which they have at Burlington and York to Kingston, and to make York the right of their line. They may, however, have a small command at Burlington, and those may be so securely posted as to render them safe from any desultory expedition you may set on foot; but if it is desirable to have any supplies which they may have collected in the neighborhood destroyed; and should the success below be not such as to promise possession of the whole of the upper province, they may be destroyed.

Captains Leonard and Reed, or either of them, are appointed to muster your troops when and where you think proper.

In closing this communication, I should not do justice to my feelings, if I were not to acknowledge the zeal and talents with which you have managed your command. Your conduct appears to me to have been extremely judicious and proper throughout, and your troops exhibit a state of improvement and subordination which is at once honorable to your officers and themselves. I am, &c. WM. H. HARRISON.

Brig. Gen. George McClure.

Fort George, Nov. 17, 1813.

Dear sir—Major-gen. Harrison embarked with his troops yesterday on board the fleet destined for Sacket's Harbor, leaving the command once more in my hands. Owing to continued opposing winds, the fleet has not yet gotten out of sight.

A correspondence which took place between the general and myself, copies of which are herewith sent, will at once explain to you my views and feelings relative to the operations proposed to have been effected on this frontier. I am confident that the expressions of regret made by gen. Harrison are equally sincere with mine, though we both acquiesce in the necessity which dictated his abandonment of the projected expedition against Burlington.

About 400 volunteers have repaired to this post under my late call, made in conformity with gen. Harri-

son's wishes and request. A few are still coming in. I shall take care that they shall not be unemployed. I am this moment sending out a detachment of 200 mounted volunteers, with directions to penetrate the enemy's line as far as practicable with safety. In the mean time, I am making preparations for moving in force against them, unless the intelligence expected from this excursion should be such as to make it improper.

Accounts of the enemy's force still vary much. A deserter came in to-day who represents their force to be 1,500 regulars and 800 Indians at Burlington and Stony Creek. The former I think is magnified.

It is impossible to form a correct opinion of their intended movements. At one time they appear to be sending down their stores and detachments of troops to York. At this time it is said they are reinforcing, fortifying and building barracks.

The term of service of my troops will expire on the 9th December. It can hardly be expected that many will willingly continue in service a longer time. Your excellency will at once see the necessity of prompt arrangements being made to supply their place, if it be contemplated to retain this garrison.

I enclose herein my late address, made under the sanction of gen. Harrison. I have the honor to be, &c.

GEO. MCCLURE, Brig. Gen.

His Excellency John Armstrong.

Fort George, Nov. 15, 1814.

Dear sir—the subject of our conversation this morning has occupied my most serious reflections. The deadly blow heretofore given to the patriotism of our citizens on this frontier, has prepared them for murmurs and complaints; those who are not on their march, have left their homes and their business under great sacrifices, with the moral certainty of being brought into action.

The last address which I issued under your directions, and which I am happy to find has met your approbation, gives them reason for indulging the expectation of service, and they are anxious to drive the enemy from their borders forever. The high character of gen. Harrison, combined with these circumstances, has excited strong interest in the public mind relative to our operations.

In this peculiar situation of affairs, I feel it to be due to the gallant volunteers and militia, who are assembling and collecting, and to my own reputation, most respectfully to solicit, that if it is not incompatible with your instructions, and your better judgment, you will not abandon our projected expedition against Burlington heights: such is the anxious wish of the militia, and I have no doubt the soldiers under your command are equally, if not more desirous of the employment.

My anxiety on the subject, I trust, will excuse the appearance of any disrespect in making this communication, which is certainly far from my feelings. My confidence in the valor, ability, and prudence of gen. Harrison, will dispose me most cheerfully to submit to any arrangements he may be bound to make, however great may be my disappointment in their result. I have the honor to be, &c. GEO. MCCLURE.

Maj. Gen. Harrison.

Head-Quarters, Newark, Nov. 15, 1813.

Dear sir—Your letter to me this morning has been received. I feel most severely the weight of the reasons which you urge for the prosecution of the intended expedition to Burlington. The disappointment, however, to the brave and patriotic men, who have turned out under the expectation of serving their country effectually in the field at this inclement season, is the most painful circumstance attending it, as I am well convinced, from the information received this morning and last evening, that the enemy are removing as fast as possible from the head of the lake to Kingston, which has been left with a very small part of the force that was lately there, and it is more than probable, that should we advance in force, the enemy having now none but effective men at Burlington, would destroy the store which they have remaining there, and retreat too rapidly to be overtaken. There are consi-

derations, however, which would make it extremely desirable to make an expedition of force in that quarter, but the orders I have received from the secretary of war leave me no alternative.

Commodore Chauncey is extremely pressing that the troops should immediately embark, declaring that the navigation at this season to small vessels is very dangerous. The force at Sacket's Harbor is —. The troops at York are hastening down to Kingston.

Sacket's Harbor may be endangered by even a delay of a few days; and should the troops that are here not get down before the lake is frozen, our fleet may be destroyed for the want of their aid. I cannot, therefore, take upon myself the responsibility of delaying their going down even a day. Will you be so good, at a proper time, as to explain the above circumstances to the patriots who left their homes with the intention of assisting me to drive the enemy far from our borders, and assure them that I shall ever recollect with the warmest gratitude, the partiality they have been pleased to express for me, and their preference of serving under my command?

I will direct payment to be made to the volunteers for rations and forage in coming out.

Accept my best wishes for your health and happiness, and believe me sincerely your friend,

WM. H. HARRISON.

General McClure.

Extract of a letter from brig. gen. McClure to the secretary of war, dated

Fort George, Nov. 21, 1813.

"My mounted men have returned from the head of the lake, having progressed within sight of the enemy's pickets at Stony Creek. Col. Willcocks, who commanded, reports, that from the best information he could collect, the enemy's force consists of from 12 to 1500 regulars, and 900 Indian warriors. They have discharged their teams, and apparently intend wintering there and at Burlington.

"It would be very desirable to dislodge them from their position, but I fear my force is insufficient for that object. At this inclement season it might be attended with serious consequences to attempt anything more than desultory excursions. The volunteers who lately came in, must, however, be actively employed, or they will return to their homes. The drafted militia on this of the Niagara are, perhaps, equal to any troops in the U. S. I regret that their terms of service will expire soon. Permit me to suggest the propriety of offering a small bounty to such of them as will volunteer to serve a longer time after their present term of service expires; say for one or two months, or until other troops can be sent on to supply their places.

"Should I move with my troops towards the head of the lake, the greatest advantage I can promise myself, will be, to destroy some contiguous mills, and to bring off a quantity of flour, which is becoming scarce with us."

Albany, 29th Nov. 1813.

Sir—Your letter of the 17th inst. has been received, and I hasten to inform you that a requisition for 1000 militia, to take the places of those now with you, has been made and will be complied with as promptly as possible, by the governor.

You say nothing of the volunteer corps which gen. Porter engaged to raise, and which was long since authorized by me. If in this effort he has failed, what are you to expect from militia drafts, with their constitutional scruples? On the other hand, should he have succeeded, and should gen. Harrison's opinion of the intentions and movements of the enemy be well founded, your force will be competent to somewhat more than defence.

The general was not under orders to quit the Niagara frontier at any particular time. His movement in this respect was matter of arrangement with com. Chauncey, and this was necessarily subject to considerations arising from weather and season.

In the application of your present force, and in the means you take to enlarge and continue it throughout the winter, you will be guided by the orders re-

ccived from the commanding general, at the time he left you, and by such others as he may give to you hereafter. I am, &c. JOHN ARMSTRONG.

Brig. gen. M'Clure.

Extract of a letter from Mr. Parker, (C. C.) to gen. M'Clure, dated

War Office, Nov. 27, 1813.

"In the absence of the secretary of war, I have had the honor to lay before the president your letters of the 19th and 21st instant, with their enclosures. He approves of the measures which you have adopted to increase your command on the Niagara frontier.

"Should the men, whose term of service expires in December, withdraw from the frontier, there can be no impropriety in continuing the officers who compose the court martial, until they discharge that duty.

"Although there is no law authorising the president to give a bounty to such militia as will remain in the service, after their term expires, still, as it would render your force more efficient than a new draft, (even if the men could be obtained) I have no hesitation in recommending that you adopt such further measures as will ensure the protection of Fort George and the Niagara frontier, until other means of defence can be provided.

"For this purpose the paymasters serving with your troops, may be required to make such payments or advances as you may think proper to order."

Extract of a letter from brig. gen. M'Clure (N. York militia) to the secretary of war, dated

Niagara, Dec. 10, 1813.

"This day found Fort George to be defended by only 60 effective regular troops, under capt. Rodgers and Hampton of the 24th regiment of U. S. infantry, and probably 40 volunteers. Within the last 3 days the term of service of the militia has been expiring, and they have re-crossed the river almost to a man. Foreseeing the defenceless situation in which the fort was left, I had authorised some of my most active subalterns to raise volunteer companies for 2 months, and offered a bounty, in addition to the month's pay. It is with regret I have to say that this expedient failed of producing the desired effect. A very inconsiderable number indeed were willing to engage for a further term of service, on any conditions.

"From the most indubitable information, I learn that the enemy are advancing in force. This day a scouting party of col. Wilcock's volunteers came in contact with their advance, at Twelve Mile Creek, lost 4 prisoners and one killed; one of the former they gave up to the savages. This movement determined me in calling a council of the principal regular and militia officers left at Fort George this morning. They all accorded in opinion that the fort was not tenable with the remnant of force left in it. I, in consequence, gave orders for evacuating the fort since dusk, and with but three boats have brought over all the light artillery, and most of the arms, equipage, ammunition, &c. and doubtless have time to dispose of the heavy cannon before the enemy makes his appearance. The village of Newark is now in flames—the few remaining inhabitants in it, having been noticed of our intention, were enabled to remove their property. The houses were generally vacant long before. This step has not been taken without council, and is in conformity with the views of your excellency, disclosed to me in a former communication.

"The enemy are now completely shut out from any hopes or means of wintering in the vicinity of Fort George. It is truly mortifying to me that a part of the militia at least could not have been prevailed on to continue in service for a longer term: but the circumstance of their having to live in tents at this inclement season, added to that of the paymaster's coming on only prepared to furnish them with one, out of three month's pay, has had all the bad effects that can be imagined. The best and most subordinate militia that have yet been on this frontier, finding that their wages were not ready for them, became, with some meritorious exceptions, a disaffected and ungovernable multitude.

"Dec. 11. I have this moment received a communication from the governor of this state, covering a requisition on maj. gen. Hall for 1000 men. It is probable that not more than 6 or 700 will rendezvous on this frontier, which will, in my humble opinion, be not more than competent to its proper protection, as some will have to be stationed at Black Rock, Schlosser and Lewistown.

"I have written to gen. P. B. Porter, desiring him to employ the Indians for the protection of Buffalo until the detachment arrives. Our shipping is in dan-

ger. No exertion will be wanting, within the pale of our limited means, to afford the protection contemplated."

Letter from the secretary of war to maj. Lee, of the 16th regt. of infantry, deputy paymaster of the army at Utica.

Sir—You will immediately take measures to pay off the brigade of M'Arthur, (1300 men) at Fort George, and the militia, volunteers, and Indians under gen. M'Clure. Send an assistant without loss of time on this business. I am, &c. JOHN ARMSTRONG.

Shelden's, Nov. 4, 1813.

Extract of a letter from brig. gen. George M'Clure to the secretary of war, dated

"H. Q. Niagara, Dec. 13, 1813.

"Since I last had the honor of writing you, the enemy has appeared in considerable force on the opposite shore; but having deprived them of a shelter, they are marching up to Queenston, and appear to be fortifying on the heights. Several hundred Indians have appeared. I have prevailed on lieut. col. Greaves and about 100 of his regiment of artillery, to remain in the service one month longer, until the detachment of militia which I have ordered, arrives here. I have directed the colonel, with 2 pieces of artillery, to Lewistown, to open a hot shot on Queenston, and deprive them of quarters there also. You will observe from my dispatch of yesterday, that every building in Newark is reduced to ashes. The enemy is much exasperated, and will make a descent on this frontier, if possible; but I shall watch them close with my handful of men, until a reinforcement of militia and volunteers arrive, when I shall endeavor to re-possess myself of Fort George, and drive them back to Burlington. I am not a little apprehensive that the enemy will take advantage of the exposed situation of Buffalo and our shipping there. My whole effective force on this extensive frontier, including the garrison at fort Niagara, does not exceed 250 men. I have sent an express to Mr. Granger, the Indian agent, to call out the Indians; an exhibition of 2 or 300 of them will strike more terror in the British, than 1000 militia. Permit me to observe to you, sir, that it is all important that payment should be made punctually to the Indians every month, or at the expiration of the term they may volunteer for. They are a people that cannot be made to understand the difficulty of having funds here at all times for that purpose. I would beg to mention that Mr. Granger has interested himself warmly in support of the government, by his endeavors to have the Indians join us on every occasion, and accompanied me himself on my late expedition to the Twenty ———.

"This day I start to Buffalo, which place I shall make my head-quarters. I will reinforce this garrison as soon as possible. In the mean time nothing shall be wanted on my part to promote the views of the government, and protect the defenceless inhabitants of this frontier."

[The remaining documents relate to the capture of Fort Niagara, and devastation of the Niagara frontier, which have already been published—see pages 126 and 139.]

ATTACK ON OSWEGO.

AMERICAN OFFICIAL ACCOUNT.

Copy of a letter from maj. gen. Brown to the secretary at war, dated

H. Q. Sacket's Harbor, May 12, 1814.

Sir—Enclosed is an abstract from the report of lieut. col. Mitchell, of the affair at Oswego. Being well satisfied with the manner in which the colonel executed my orders, and with the evidence given of steady discipline and gallant conduct on the part of the troops, I have noticed them in the general order, a copy of which is enclosed.

The enemy's object was the naval and military stores deposited at the Falls, 10 miles in the rear of the fort. These were protected. The stores at the fort and village were not important. I am, &c.

JACOB BROWN, Maj. Gen.

Hon. Secretary at War.

REPORT.

I informed you of my arrival at fort Oswego on the 30th ult. This post being but occasionally and not recently occupied by regular troops, was in a bad state of defence. Of cannon we had but five old guns, three of which had lost their trunnions. What could be done in the way of repair was effected—new platforms were laid, the gun carriages put in order, and decayed pickets replaced. On the 5th inst. the British

naval force, consisting of 4 large ships, 3 brigs and a number of gun and other boats, were despatched at reveille—beating about 7 miles from the fort. Information was immediately given to capt. Woolsey of the navy, (who was at Oswego village) and to the neighboring militia. It being doubtful on what side of the river the enemy would attempt to land, and my force (290 effectives) being too small to bear division, I ordered the tents in store to be pitched on the village side, while I occupied the other with my whole force. It is probable that this artifice had its effect and determined the enemy to attack where, from appearances, they expected the least opposition. About one o'clock the fleet approached. Fifteen boats, large and crowded with troops, at a given signal, moved slowly to the shore. These were preceded by gun-boats sent to rake the woods and cover the landing, while the larger vessels opened a fire upon the fort. Captain Boyle and lieut. Legate, (so soon as the debarking boats got within range of our shot) opened upon them a very successful fire from the shore battery, and compelled them twice to retire. They at length returned to the ships, and the whole stood off from the shore for better anchorage. One of the enemy's boats which had been deserted, was taken up by us, and some others by the militia. The first mentioned was 60 feet long, and carried 36 oars and 3 sails, and could accommodate 150 men. She had received a ball through her bow, and was nearly filled with water.

Piquet Guards were stationed at different points, and we lay on our arms during the night.

At day break on the 6th the fleet appeared, bearing up under easy sail. The Wolfe, &c. took a position directly against the fort and batteries, and for 3 hours kept up a heavy fire of grape, &c. Finding that the enemy had effected a landing, I withdrew my small disposable force into the rear of the fort, and with two companies, (Romayne's and Melvin's) met their advancing columns, while the other companies engaged the flanks of the enemy. Lieutenant Pearce of the navy and some seamen, joined in the attack, and fought with their characteristic bravery. We maintained our ground about 30 minutes, and as long as consisted with my further duty of defending the public stores deposited at the Falls, which no doubt formed the principal object of the expedition on the part of the enemy. Nor was this movement made precipitately. I halted within 400 yards of the fort. Capt. Romayne's company formed the rear guard, and, remaining with it, I marched to this place in good order, destroying the bridges in my rear. The enemy landed 600 of De Watteville's regiment, 600 marines, two companies of the Glengary corps, and 350 seamen.

Gen. Drummond and com. Yeo were the land and naval commanders. They burned the old barracks and evacuated the fort about 3 o'clock in the morning of the 7th.

Our loss in killed, is six; in wounded 38—and in missing 25. That of the enemy is much greater. Deserters, and citizens of ours taken prisoners and afterwards released, state their killed at 64 and wounded in proportion—among these are several land and navy officers of merit.

I cannot close this dispatch without speaking of the dead and the living of my detachment. Lieut. Blaney, a young man of much promise, was unfortunately killed. His conduct in the action was highly meritorious. Capt. Boyle and lieut. Legate merit my highest approbation, and indeed I want language to express my admiration of their gallant conduct. The subalterns M'Comb, Ansart, Ring, Robb, Earl, M'Clinck and Newkirk, performed well their several parts.

It would be injustice were I not to acknowledge and report the zeal and patriotism evinced by the militia, who arrived at a short notice, and were anxious to be useful.

GENERAL ORDERS.

H. Q. Sacket's Harbor, 12th May, 1814.

Major-gen. Brown has the satisfaction of announcing to the troops of his division, that the detachment under the command of lieut. col. Mitchell of the corps of artillery, have by their gallant and highly military conduct on the 5th and 6th inst. gained a name in arms worthy of the nation they serve and the cause they support. For nearly two days they maintained an unequal contest against ten times their numbers, and but yielded their post when the interest of their country made that measure necessary.

The companies composing this gallant detachment were Boyles's, Romayne's, M'Intines, and Pierce's, of

the heavy artillery, and a few seamen under the command of lieut. Pearce of the navy—in all, less than three hundred men. The enemy's force by land and water exceeded three thousand.

Extract of a letter from commodore Chauncey to the secretary of the navy.

U. S. ship Superior, Sacket's Harbor, May 16, 1814.

"The enemy has paid dearly for the little booty which he obtained at Oswego. From the best information which I can collect, both from deserters and my agents, the enemy lost 70 men killed and 165 wounded, drowned and missing—in all, 235; nearly as many as were opposed to them. Capt. Mulcaster is certainly mortally wounded; a captain of marines killed, and a number of other officers killed and wounded.

BRITISH OFFICIAL ACCOUNT.

GENERAL ORDERS.

H. Q. Montreal, May 12, 1814.

His excellency the governor in chief and commander of the forces, has the highest satisfaction in announcing to the troops, that he has received a dispatch from lieut. gen. Drummond, reporting the result of a most spirited and successful attack on the enemy's fort and position of Oswego, which was carried by assault at noon on the 6th inst.

The lieut. general reports, that having caused six companies of the regt. de Watteville and one company of the Glengary light infantry, with a small detachment of artillery, to embark on board the squadron, in addition to the 21st battalion of royal marines, he accompanied sir James Yeo in the Prince Regent, and on the evening of the 5th inst. anchored off Oswego; but a violent gale of wind driving the squadron off shore, the position was not again recovered till noon, on the following day, when the disposition for landing was instantly carried into execution, in the following order: the frigates taking a position from whence they could cannonade the fort, and the brigs, schooners, and gun-boats, in proportion to their respective draft of water, covered by their fire the several points of debarkation of the troops, which was attended with considerable difficulty, owing to the shallowness of water; the boats grounding, the troops were, in many instances, obliged to leap out and wade through the water to their middles to gain the landing; and the enemy having strongly occupied the favorable positions near the shore and woods with which it is surrounded, the disembarkation was attended with some loss, but effected it with the utmost promptitude under the direction of lieut. col. Fisher, led by two new formed flank companies of de Watteville's regt. under capt. Berzy; the remaining four companies, and a detachment of royal artillery, being held in reserve. The 2d battalion of marines under lieut. col. Malcolm, supported by a detachment of 200 seamen under capt. Mulcaster, royal navy, formed a 2d column to the right. Capt. McMillan's company of Glengary light infantry, gained the skirts of the woods on the left, and covered the advance of the columns to the fort; which was gained and carried in ten minutes from the advance of the troops, after landing. The enemy's garrison consisted of Macomb's 3d regt. of artillery, 400 strong, and a numerous body of militia, saving themselves by a precipitate flight.

Lieut. gen. Drummond speaks in the strongest terms of the cordial, judicious, and able co-operation of sir James Yeo, and the officers and seamen of his squadron, and laments the temporary loss the service has sustained in capt. Mulcaster of the royal navy, who is severely wounded. The eminent services of that officer, and of capts. O'Connor, Popham, and Collier, are particularly noticed.

[Here follows encomiums on the merits of many officers, and volunteers, to whom various parts of duty were assigned. Among others, lieut. Hewitt of the marines, who climbed the flag-staff and pulled down the American colors, which were nailed to it; and lieut. Lawrie, who led the party which entered the fort.]

It is particularly gratifying to his excellency to have to notice, to the honor of both branches of the service, that there was not a single soldier or sailor missing, not a single instance of intoxication, although surrounded with temptation.

The service has lost a brave and meritorious officer in capt. Hathaway of the royal marines.

Every object of the expedition being accomplished—the barracks burnt, and the fort dismantled, and all

public stores which were not brought away, destroyed, the troops re-embarked at 4 o'clock the following morning, and the squadron sailed for Kingston.

The enemy's loss amounts to at least 100 killed, and 60 prisoners, the greater part wounded.

[Here follows the details of the killed and wounded. The total of which are—Killed, 1 captain, (Hathaway) 15 rank and file, and 3 seamen—total 19. Wounded, 3 captains, (Ledergrew, Mulcaster and Popham) 2 lieutenants, (May and Griffith) Mr. Richardson, master, 62 rank and file, and 7 seamen—total, 75. Total killed and wounded, 94.]

ORDNANCE TAKEN AND DESTROYED.

Taken—Three iron 32 pounders, 4 iron 24 prs. one iron 12 pr. one iron 6 pr. Destroyed—one heavy 12 pr. and one heavy 6 pr.

One schooner, and several boats laden with ordnance, naval and other stores, were brought away. Three schooners, and other craft, destroyed.

EDW. BAYNES, Adj. Gen. N. Amer.

The British Official Account

Of the late attack on Oswego (says the Boston Chronicle) is in the usual style of their bombastical and false relation of events in which they come off second best. There were not less than 2000 of the enemy, opposed by a handful of troops, amounting to only 300. Our loss was but trifling in men and property—one lieut. and 5 men killed, and 38 wounded; and 25 prisoners. They state 60 prisoners, but these were the inhabitants of the village, who were taken to Kingston contrary to the promises of their officers. Gen Drummond laments the temporary loss sustained, by capt. Mulcaster of the royal navy being severely wounded, and capt. Hathaway of the royal marines being killed, and acknowledges they lost 19 killed and 75 wounded—making a total loss of 94 killed and wounded. We have reason to think it much greater. The resistance of our brave little band, has taught the enemy what he has to expect in equal combat.

Extract of a letter from Thomas Macdonough, esq. commanding United States force on Lake Champlain, to the secretary of the navy, dated

Vergennes, 14th of May, 1814.

"I have the honor to inform you, that an engagement between our battery at the mouth of Otter Creek, and eight of the enemy's galleys, with a bomb vessel, has terminated by the retreat of the enemy, who it is supposed, came with an intention of blockading us.

"The battery, commanded by capt. Thornton of the artillery, who was gallantly assisted by lieut. Cassin of the navy, received but little injury, although a number of shells were thrown, and many lodged in the parapet.

"Col. Davis was advantageously posted to receive the enemy in the event of his landing, which we had reason to expect, as his new brig with several other galleys and four other sloops were within two and a half miles of the point on which the battery stands, during the action, which lasted one hour and a half, when they all stood off, and were seen passing Burlington for the northward. Every exertion was made to get the vessels down to the Creek, which however we could not effect until the enemy had withdrawn. Our whole force is now at the Creek's mouth, with the exception of the schooner, and she will be down also in the course of four or five days."

FROM THE SAME TO THE SAME.

Vergennes, May 18, 1814.

"I omitted stating in my letter of the 14th, that the enemy had two fine row-boats shot adrift from their galleys in the action with the battery, which, in their precipitate retreat, were left, and picked up by us.

I have since learned, that in other parts of the lake they were much cut up by the militia. Two of their galleys, in passing up a small river on the New-York side, had nearly all their men killed and wounded."

*Adjutant and Inspector-General's office, }
Washington, May 20, 1814.*

GENERAL ORDERS.

Absent officers now on furlough, and not ordered

on the recruiting service, will join their respective corps or regiments, immediately. By order

J. B. WALBACH, Adj. gen.

Adjutant and Inspector-General's office.
GENERAL ORDERS.

Any commissioned officer of the army of the U. S. who shall send, or accept any challenge, or fight a duel, or who, knowing that any other officer has sent or accepted, or is about to send or accept, a challenge to fight a duel, and who does not immediately arrest and bring to trial the offenders in this case, shall be dismissed the service of the United States.

J. B. WALBACH, Adj. Gen.

THE WAR.

NEW-YORK:

TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 31.

TO OUR PATRONS.

The *Second Volume* of "The War," will be completed on the fifteenth June, at which time the *second year's subscription* expires. Those only who pay us **ONE DOLLAR IN ADVANCE**, will be considered as subscribers for the ensuing year. This regulation we are determined strictly to adhere to, with every person not residing in the city. Our *city patrons* will, however, be waited on for that purpose in the course of the month, and their papers continued until their determinations be known, when their non-compliance will be the signal for erasing their names from our subscription book.

N. B. The subscribers to "The War" are respectfully informed, that a few sets of the first and second volume of this work, neatly bound, (together or separate) will be ready for delivery by the 21st at the following prices:

Full bound, (separate) per vol.	\$ 3 25
Ditto, two vols. in one	6 00
Half bound, ditto	5 25
Ditto, (separate) per vol.	2 75
In boards, ditto ditto	2 50
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GUN-BOAT BATTLE.

On Sunday morning the gun-boat flotilla, under command of com. Lewis, returned to this port from their cruise in the Sound. The following is an extract from the commander's journal:

On Wednesday, May 25th, sailed from Saybrook with 40 sail of coasting vessels, and proceeded towards New-London. At 5 P. M. came to action with two of the enemy's ships and a sloop, before New-London. The action was general, and continued until 8 P. M. when, on account of darkness, the action ceased, during which the whole of the convoy passed the enemy in safety. The damage done to the flotilla was trifling. No. 6 had one shot between wind and water, another through her sail, &c. As soon as the engagement ceased, the flotilla came to anchor before the harbor of New-London, within gun shot of the enemy, with a view of renewing the action in the morning, when we found that the enemy had collected all his force, in number 7 ships and several small vessels, in consequence of which great accession of force, the project of renewing the action was abandoned, and signal was made to proceed up Sound, whither the enemy pursued as far as Faulkner's Island.

FROM LAKE ONTARIO.

By the latest accounts, the British fleet was blockading Sacket's Harbor. Com. Chauncey will raise the blockade the moment the armament of his large ship is completed.

The account in our last of the British having again appeared off Oswego, appears to have been unfounded.

When our Ontario fleet, now preparing, is completed, it will consist of one ship of 64 guns, one of 30, one of 28, three brigs, each 26, one of 18, and four schooners, of 2 each. Capt. Elliott is to command the principal ship on Lake Ontario, under com. Chauncey. The consequence of the affairs at Oswego, it is thought, will be, a delay of 10 or 15 days in the operations of our fleet.

FROM LAKE CHAMPLAIN.

Com. Macdonough has discharged all the carpenters and riggers under his orders. His squadron now consists of the following vessels. Ship Saratoga, 26 heavy guns and carronades. Sch. Ticonderoga, 20 do. do. (built on the frame of a steam boat.)

6 new galleys, 2 heavy carronades each.

2 sloops, 9 guns each.

3 sloops and 4 galleys, all old, are laid up for want of men, and we may add for want of occasion, as the force in commission is superior to that of the British, who have retreated in their turn, and are beginning to throw up defences on shore for the aid of their flotilla.

On the 2d March the timber of the ship Saratoga was standing in the forest. Her keel was laid on the 6th of the same month, and she was launched on the 11th of April! her length of keel is 130 feet; breadth of beam 37. Burthen, rising 500 tons. Mounts 6 long 24s, 8 42s, and 14 24 pound carronades. The country is much indebted to Mess. Brown, master builders, for their exertions in completing these vessels, in season to secure us the mastery of the lake.

FROM CANADA.

We learn with pleasure, (says the Quebec Gazette) that the grand jury have lately visited the public gaol, and particularly question-

ed the prisoners of war, as well as other prisoners, as to the treatment they received, and whether they had any complaint to make. All expressed their satisfaction, by saying that they had every comfort their situation would admit of. This must silence all calumny in the States, against this government, respecting ill-treatment of the prisoners of war.

Large reinforcements are daily expected at Quebec, from England and Halifax.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

The schooner Billow, a cartel, from New-Providence, in 18 days, has arrived at this port, and brings passengers capt. Bainbridge and 7 of his officers, late of the U. S. sloop of war Frolic, recently captured by the British.

Col. Campbell and major Marlin, with 270 regular troops, and col. Fenton, with 600 Pennsylvania militia, sailed on the 16th instant from Erie, on an expedition to Long Point. The object of the expedition is supposed to be to capture a quantity of flour at the mills. We sincerely hope it will not prove to be a stone mill affair.

Com. Hardy, of the Ramilies, 74, has addressed a letter to the British agent for prisoners of war in Boston, stating that he had arrived in the bay with an adequate force to carry the blockade into effect, and requesting him to make it known to the neutral consuls and agents in that town and state, that the blockade would be rigorously enforced, agreeably to the proclamation for the same.

A number of Fulton's torpedoes have been prepared for the defence of Portsmouth, N. H. So that should there be an attack from the enemy, a fair experiment will probably be made with them.

Tribute to valor. The citizens of Savannah have given a public dinner to capt. Warrington of the U. S. sloop Peacock, and his officers.

Trial for treason. John Hussey and Ebenezer Hussey, who have been in close confinement, in Ipswich jail, since Jan. last, on suspicion of treason, were on the 19th inst. brought before the circuit courtsitting in Boston. The grand jury not having found a true bill against them, judge Davis, after some pertinent observations on the duties of citizens to the government in time of war, and the dangerous tendency of conduct which might give rise to a suspicion of maintaining an illegal intercourse with the enemy, ordered the defendants to be discharged.

The letter-of-marque brig Henry Gilder, Newson, in 29 days from Laguaira, arrived at this port on Saturday night, with a valuable cargo. The British sch. Young Farmer, new and coppered, with a cargo of indigo, cocoa and coffee, valued at 40,000 dollars, prize to the Henry Gilder, arrived in company. They passed 3 British cruisers off the Hook unperceived.

The privateer Chasseur, Wade, of Baltimore, arrived at this port on Saturday from a cruise of 131 days. *Extract from her log-book:* Feb. 1, captured the British ship Galatea, with a valuable cargo—ordered in. Feb. 13, captured the British schooner Miranda, with dry-goods, flour, butter, &c. Took out the dry-goods and some provisions, and set fire to the vessel. Feb. 18, captured the British sloop Martha, laden with government stores; took out some articles and destroyed the remainder; 25 prisoners were then put on board, and the sloop dispatched as a cartel. Feb. 19, captured the British government schr. Harriet

Elizabeth, with coffee—ordered in. Same day, captured American schr. Ann Maria, of Boston, which had been to Bermuda and sold a cargo of flour—had been captured by the British brig Eclipse, on her passage to St. Bartholomews—took out the prize crew, one midshipman and 5 men, and burnt her. March 2, we arrived at Cape Henry, (Hayti) and paroled 15 prisoners. March 9, sailed again on a cruise. March 13, captured the American schr. William of Bristol, R. I. which had been at Martinico; took out a quantity of cash in gold, and burnt her. March 23, captured British schr. Lark—ordered in. April 8, captured British brig Britannia, a frigate in sight—she chased us 5 hours, but we escaped with our prize. April 18, captured British ship London Packet, of 10 guns, and British schr. Melpomene, of 6 guns, with cargoes of wine, brandy, and corks—ordered in. April 21, captured the Maltese polacre ship Joanna, of 6 guns, with wheat and barley, bound to Lisbon, supposed to be worth 80,000 dollars; scuttled her, and gave up her boats to the prisoners, 40 in number, to proceed to Lago, distant 3 miles.

The British letter-of-marque brig Kutusoff, arrived at Frankfort, (Me.) on the 21st instant, with a full cargo of coffee and cocoa, valued at 50,000 dollars, prize to the Surprise of Baltimore, captured April 24, off the Western Islands, after a severe engagement, in which the Kutusoff suffered severely. It appeared by her papers that she had 40 men; there were but 29 found on board, 2 of whom were mortally wounded, and several slightly. The Surprise lost one man killed—George E. Burdick, sailing-master. She was formerly the American privateer Decatur, and was captured by the British frigate Surprise.

The British brig Camellion, of 260 tons, with a full cargo of rum and molasses, arrived at Portsmouth, N. H. on the 18th inst., prize to the Mammoth, of Baltimore.

British sch. Phoebe, Heath, with rum, molasses and lime juice, has been sent into Wilmington, N. C. by the Hawk privateer of Washington.

The privateer Caroline, capt. Almeda, of Charleston, arrived at that port on the 16th inst. from a cruise, in which she made 5 prizes—3 ordered in, and the rest destroyed.

London, March 2.

Naval Court Martial. A court martial was held last week at Portsmouth, on capt. John Taylor, of his majesty's ship L'Espiegle, against whom the following charges were made: For behaving in an officer-like and scandalous manner to his officers; cruelty to the sick; not having done his duty in pursuit of the American sloop of war Hornet; being drunk every night; and for cruelty, and using disgraceful language to lieutenant Dier. A great number of witnesses were examined in support of, and against the charges. Capt. Taylor made his defence by counsel, to a great length, in which he expressed most feelingly his sensations on being charged with neglect of duty, and, in consequence, of injuring the interests of his country. He stated his long services; the approval with which those services were repaid; he concluded, that he hoped he was never wanting in the essential requisites of a British officer. The court, after a mature deliberation, acquitted capt. Taylor of the charge of drunkenness—of severe treatment to the crew, tending to excite mutiny—of neglect of duty in not pursuing the Hornet, after the destruction of the Peacock, which latter charge they considered most scandalous and unfounded; but were of opinion, that the remaining part of the charge was proved, and did sentence him to be dismissed his majesty's service, at the same time recommending him to the consideration of the lords of the admiralty.

